

MARVEL
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X-MEN

SEP. '96 101



EXCALIBUR

SPECIAL
HEROES REBORN
UPDATE INSIDE!



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Quiet

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BENEATH THE STATION
LIES A CRYPT ROOM,
THAT COMPRISES X-MEN
FOUNDER CHARLES XAVIER'S
LAST GIFT TO HIS FRIENDS.

INFORMATION.

MOIRA,
IF YOU ARE
HEARING THIS, THEN
YOU ARE HERE
ALONE --

-- AND,
IF I KNOW YOU,
DRIVING YOURSELF
INSANE WITH
OPTIONS.

I RECORDED
THESE MESSAGES IN
THE KNOWLEDGE THAT
THEY WOULD ONLY BE
HEARD IF I DIED OR
WENT MAD.

IN EITHER
SITUATION, MOIRA,
MUIR BECOMES THE
SOLE REPOSITORY OF ALL
THE MUTANT-RELATED
DATA I HAVE
GATHERED.

FURTHER-
MORE, IF MY
X-MEN AND I ARE
GONE.

THEN YOU,
MOIRA --

-- MY BEST
FRIEND --

-- YOU
ARE THE LAST
OUTPOST OF THE
DREAM.

I KNOW.
END
MESSAGE.

AYE
WHAT IS IT,
RORY?

THEY'RE
HOME.

BEEP
BEEP



EXCALIBUR
IS HOME.

HOME FROM LONDON,
WHERE THEIR INTERVENTION
IN SECRET HORRORS
WITHIN THE CITY HAS SAVED
COUNTLESS LIVES.*

HOME -- AND COMPLETELY
IGNORANT OF WHAT'S
HAPPENED IN AMERICA OVER
THE LAST SEVERAL HOURS.

AS COMPLETELY TOLD
LAST ISSUE - Joyce

AND IT'S MOIRA
McTAGGERT WHO
SOMEHOW HAS TO
TELL THEM.

SHE TESTS OUT SENTENCES IN HER
HEAD, BUT NONE OF THEM SOUND
GOOD ENOUGH FOR HER FRIENDS.

RAHNE SINCLAIR,
WITH THE RESCUED
DOUGLOCK --
WILL SHE CRY?

BRIAN BRADDOCK AND
MEGGAN NEVER KNEW
CHARLES WELL, BUT THEY
KNOW HIS DREAM OF
PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE
BETWEEN MAN AND MUTANT.

PIOTR RASPUTIN ARGUED
WITH CHARLES AND PARTED
WAYS WHEN LAST THEY MET.
HOW WILL HE REACT?

YOU
HAVE LEG
INJURIES, LITTLE
ENGLISHMAN, I
CANNOT ALLOW
YOU TO
WALK.

PETE WISDOM NEVER MET
CHARLES BUT KITTY PRYDE
GREW UP WITH CHARLES
XAVIER AS SOMETHING
LIKE A FATHER.

YOU
HAVE MY
PERMISSION
TO BOUNCE HIM
A FEW TIMES IF
HE KEEPS
ACTING
UP...

OH,
SO YOU
JUST HAVE TO
CARRY ME LIKE A
SACK OF BLOODY
POTATOES, DO YOU?

TART!

AND KURT WAGNER, THE
TEAM'S LEADER, -- CHARLES
ALWAYS SAID KURT WAS
THE HEART OF THE X-MEN.





LORD,
LOOK AT YE
ALL --

RORY,
CAN YE HEAR
ME BACK THERE?
GET MEDLAB UP
AND RUNNING!

-- BRIAN,
HAVE YOU BEEN
SHOT? --

MEGGAN,
DID YE CLEAN
THOSE
WOUNDS? --

WISDOM,
WHAT IN THE DEVIL
HAVE YOU BEEN
UP TAE?

MOIRA,
YOU'RE PANICKING.
CALM DOWN. THE
WOUNDS ALL SEEM
MINOR --



PANIC?
PANIC?
Och, GOD,
KURT...

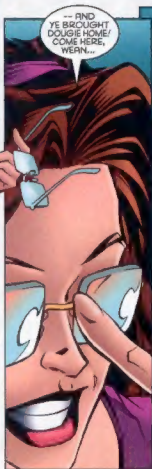
CHARLES
XAVIER'S GONE
INSANE!

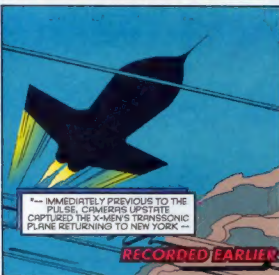
HE'S EVOLVED
INTRE SOMETHING
CALLED
ONSLAUGHT.

AND HE'S
ATTEMPTING
TO KILL THE
X-MEN.



QUIET.







WITH THE
EMP THERE'RE
NO PLANES IN
THE AIR.

XAVIER
WOULD DETECT OUR
ENTRY IN AN INSTANT,
AND THANKS TO THE
BLACKOUT, WE HAVE NO
IDEA OF WHAT WE'D
BE FLYING INTO
ANYWAY.

WE COULD
TAKE THE
MOONLIGHT FLIT
TO PROVIDE MEDICAL
ASSISTANCE ON THE
OUTSKIRTS -- IT'S
FAST ENOUGH TO
GET US THERE
WHILE WE'RE STILL
USEFUL....

THE
PROFESSOR
DID THIS?



I DON'T
BELIEVE IT. I
DON'T.



WELL, BRIAN --
ACTUALLY AS IT
HAPPENS, WE...
HA HA HA...

... THE FLIT
TOOK A BIT OF
DAMAGE WHILE
YOU WERE IN
LONDON...



I BETTER
STAY, BRIAN'S
ABOUT TO USE HIS
BIG CAPTAIN
BRIAN
VOICE...

I'M GOING
TO GET CHANGED
AND PUT SOME
COFFEE ON...

DID
YOU LET
MY BRAND NEW
AIRCRAFT
GET SHOT,
KURT?

WELL, IT
WASN'T QUITE
LIKE THAT,
BRIAN.

BUT...
YES, OKAY, IT
KIND OF GOT
SHOT...



IT'S GOT
ONE ENGINE DOWN --
WOULDN'T HAVE THE
SPEED TO GET TO NYC
IN ANY KIND OF
USEFUL TIME.

MAYBE
WE COULD
TRANSFER THE
MEDICAL GEAR TO
THE MIDNIGHT
RUNNER...?

NO, WE'D
NEVER FIT ALL THE
NECESSARY MEDICAL
EQUIPMENT INTO THE
RUNNER, WE'RE
STUFFED.



HOLD
ON, I BETTER
GET THIS...



AND YOU
HAD BETTER GET
DOWN TO MEDLAB. I
WANT MOIRA TO LOOK
AT YOUR BULLET
WOUNDS.

BUT
I --

IF I HAVE TO
PUT YOU OVER MY
SHOULDER AND CARRY
YOU THERE, BRIAN
BRADDOCK,
I WILL.



-- SO THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY USED THE DATA KITTY SENT THEM TO CLOSE DOWN BLACK AIR FOR GOOD.

AND WE SHUT DOWN ALL THE STUFF THEY'D GATHERED FROM BR TAIN'S PARANORMAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT BEFORE T DID TOO MUCH HARM

I'VE TOLD YE, YE DISGUSTING SOUTHERN BASTARD.

NRE SMOKING IN MY LAB.

I'M GONNA REBUILD HADRIAN'S WALL TOMORROW

ANYWAY, ALISTAIRE, THE UPSHOT IS THAT YOUR POSH BACKSIDE IS SAFE FROM BLACK AIR AND ITS DEATH THREAT AGAINST YOU NOW

GET AWAY FROM MY CIGARETTE. MacTAGGERT.

THERE AIN'T NO BLACK AIR ANYMORE, AND THE PRINCIPALS ARE GOING INTO THE NCK UNTIL, SOMETIME AFTER THEY DIE OF OLD AGE.

PHONE CALL FOR ALISTAIRE STUART, LATE OF THE WEIRD HAPPENINGS ORGANIZATION FROM LONDON, WITH THE PRIME MINISTER'S COMPLIMENTS, IT SAYS

THINK THEY'LL APOLOGIZE FOR ALLOWING THOSE TREASONOUS SCUM AT BLACK AIR TO JSLRP THE W.H.O.'S MANDATE?

I DOUBT IT. HAVE FUN



YOU KNOW WHAT THE WORST OF IT IS?

THE LAST WORDS I SPOKE TO PROFESSOR XAVIER WERE, **HASH** ONES.

AND NOW HE IS MAD, LOST TO US..

NOW YOU KNOW HOW I FELT WHEN YOU WENT OVER THE EDGE.

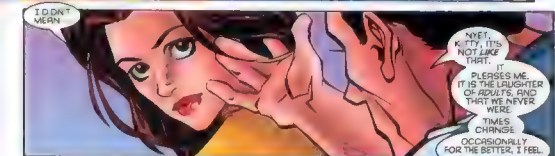
I... SUPPOSE SO. I HAD NOT THOUGHT OF IT LIKE THAT.

ARE YOU **HAPPY** HERE PLOTZ?

WE ACHIEVED SOMETHING, THIS MORNING. ACHIEVEMENT FEELS VERY GOOD, PARTICULARLY WHEN I HAVE MY OLDEST FRIENDS WITH ME.

AND ESPECIALLY WHEN THIS FRIEND IN FRONT OF ME HERE SEEMS SO **HAPPY** WITH HER LIFE.

I'VE HEARD YOU AND WISDOM LAUGHING AT N GHT.



I DIDN'T MEAN

NYET, KITTY, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.

IT PLEASES ME. IT IS THE LAUGHTER OF ADULTS, AND THAT WE NEVER WERE

TIMES CHANGE

OCCASIONALLY FOR THE BETTER, I FEEL.



I PROMISE NEVER TO BEAT UP ANY OF YOUR BOYFRIENDS AGAIN.

OH, YOU'RE JUST TOO KIND..

SO MISTER WISDOM LENT YOU SOME CLOTHES?

YES, MISTER WISDOM CLAIMS TO HAVE FIFTEEN SETS OF CLOTHING THAT ARE ALL EXACTLY THE SAME.

HE'S ALSO OFFERED TO TEACH ME HOW TO SMOKE, DRINK AND SAY D.S.GJSTING THINGS

MISTER WISDOM IS CERTAINLY A VERY GENEROUS MAN ..

OH, DON'T WORRY I DON'T INTEND TO TAKE HIM UP ON IT

EXCEPT MAYBE FOR THE LANGUAGE LESSON. I DO HAVE SOME SHAKESPEARIAN INSULTS IN MY DATABANKS, THOUGH.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HEAR SOME?

NOT FOR THE MOMENT, DOUGIE. . SHOULD I STILL BE CAL.. NO YE DOUG-EP

SINCE YE SEEM TO HAVE FOUND YUR OWN PERSONALITY, OUTSIDE OF THE PHALANX AND POOR DOUG RAMSEY'S MEMORIES AND ALL...

DOUG RAMSEY WAS YOUR GREAT FRIEND, WASN'T HE?

I'VE CONSIDERED TRYING TO CHANGE MY APPEARANCE, SO THAT THE VISAGE OF YOUR DEAD FRIEND IS NO LONGER HERE TO BOTHER YOU.

NO NEED.

I KNOW YE'RE NOT DOUG. I GOT OVER THAT A WAYS BACK. IT'S NICE TO HAVE A REMINDER OF DOUG WITH US, BUT YE'RE YOU.

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO WATCHING YE BECOME YUR OWN MAN.

MY NEW FRIEND

WHAT?

THOU DRONING HEDGE-BORN, FLY BITTEN B..ADDER!!

INSULT

GOOD, ISN'T IT?

JORY CAMPBELL IS A
PSYCHOLOGIST BY
TRADE. HE CAME TO MUR
ISLAND TO WORK WITH MOSA
MCCARTHERY BECAUSE IT
WAS A CHALLENGE

NOT LONG
AFTER
HE GOT HIS
CHALLENGE

A DREAM OF THE FUTURE
WHERE HE BECAME A MAN
CALLED AMAB, WHO USES HIS
SKILLS TO TORTURE MUTANTS

IN TRYING TO
FACE THE FEAR
THAT HE WILL
BECOME A
MUTANT-HATER,
HE LOST HIS LEG.

HE USED HIS SKILL TO
ALLOW HIMSELF TO
HAPPEN TO MAKE HIM
HATE MUTANTS FASTER
HIS HEART - AS DO THE
REPORTS CLIPPINGS AND
INTERNET MESSAGES
ABOUT NEW YORK

HE USED
TO MAKE
HIS HATE
STARTS

DR
"CAMPBELL"

IT'S ALISTAIR
STUART... I KNOW
WE HAVEN'T SPOKEN
MUCH, BUT I HAVE
SOMETHING TO
ASK YOU

I HAVE A
MINUTE

HMM? OH SURE
PLEASE, COME IN



I'VE JUST
RECEIVED A PHONE
CALL FROM THE
GOVERNMENT.

THEY WANT
TO TAKE THE OLD
W.M.O., BLACK AIR, AND
ALL RELATED PARANORMAL
ORGANIZATIONS AND
RATIONALIZE THEM
INTO A SINGLE
DEPARTMENT

THEY'VE
OFFERED ME THE
DIRECTORSHIP.

I WANT TO
OFFER YOU A POST,
AN IMPORTANT
POST WITHIN THE
DEPARTMENT

MUTANT
LIAISON AND
MANAGEMENT

PUT SIMPLY,
IT KEEPS YOU IN
TOUCH WITH MO'RA
AND EXCALIBUR, AND
BEGINS A PROGRAM OF
DISCOVERING AND
OFFERING AID TO
BRITISH
MUTANTS

A COMPLETELY BENIGN
JOB, THINKS RORY.
HELPING MUTANTS
NEVER HATING THEM

WHAT
ABOUT MO'RAP
I MEAN, I WORK
HERE AND --

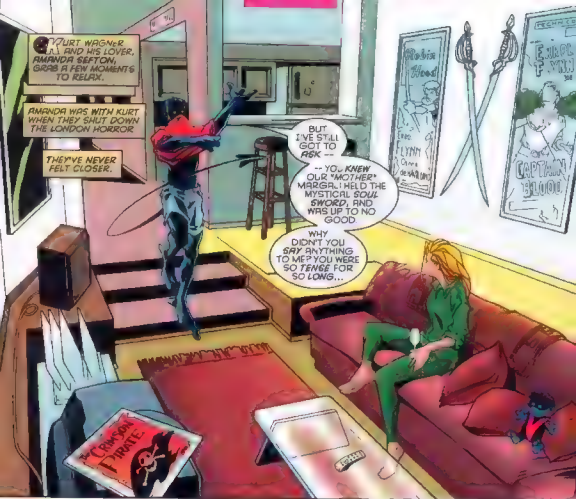
I SPOKE TO
HER. SHE SAYS
GO WITH HER
BLESSING.

WHEN DO WE
LEAVE?

IN AN ENCLOSURE
WITHIN MEDLAB,
MO'RA SMILES INSIDE

HER INVESTIGATION OF
THE LETHAL LEGACY
VIRUS "ICKING INSIDE
HER HAS LED HER UP AN
INTERESTING AVENUE
OR TWO...

ONES SHE
PREFERS TO
PURSUE ALONE.



KURT WAGNER
AND HIS LOVER,
AMANDA SEFTON,
GRAB A FEW MOMENTS
TO RELAX.

AMANDA WAS WITH KURT
WHEN THEY SHUT DOWN
THE LONDON HORROR

THEY'VE NEVER
FELT CLOSER.

BUT
I'VE STILL
GOT TO
ASK --

-- YOU KNEW
OUR "MOTHER"
MARGAL I HELD THE
MYSTICAL SOUL
SWORD, AND
WAS UP TO NO
GOOD

WHY
DIDN'T YOU
SAY ANYTHING
TO ME? YOU WERE
SO TENSE FOR
SO LONG...

MY
MISTAKE IN
GIVING IT
TO HER.

MY
PROBLEM

I WANTED TO COPE WITH
IT MYSELF. YOU
HAVE ENOUGH TO COPE
WITH...

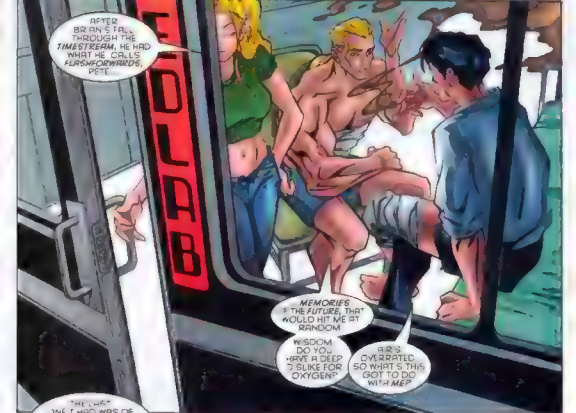
YOU COPE
EXCELLENTLY.

NEVER
FORGET --
YOU SAVED OUR
LIVES IN LONDON
AND COUNTLESS
OTHERS.

I
LOVE YOU,
KURT.

AND I
LOVE YOU,
TOO.

HIS UNSPOKEN
THOUGHT
"AND WHERE
DID MARGAL
VANISH TO,
ANYWAY?"



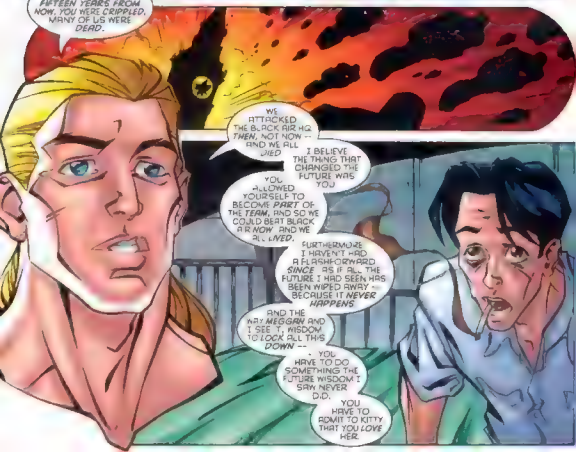
AFTER BRAN'S FALL THROUGH THE TIMESTREAM, HE HAD WHAT HE CALLS FLASHFORWARDS, PETE.

MEMORIES OF THE FUTURE, THAT WOULD HIT ME AT RANDOM.

WISDOM. DO YOU HAVE A DEEP DISLIKE FOR OXYGEN?

AR'S OVERRATED. SO WHAT'S THIS GOT TO DO WITH ME?

"THE LAST ONE I HAD WAS OF FIFTEEN YEARS FROM NOW. YOU WERE CRIPPLED. MANY OF US WERE DEAD."



WE ATTACKED THE BLACK AIR HQ THEN, NOT NOW -- AND WE ALL DIED.

YOU ALLOWED YOURSELF TO BECOME PART OF THE TEAM, AND SO WE COULD BEAT BLACK AIR NOW AND WE ALL LIVED.

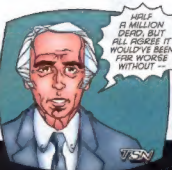
I BELIEVE THE THING THAT CHANGED THE FUTURE WAS YOU.

SURTHERMORE I HAVEN'T HAD A FLASH-ORWARD SINCE AS IF ALL THE FUTURE I HAD SEEN HAS BEEN WIPED AWAY -- BECAUSE IT NEVER HAPPENS.

AND THE WAY MEGGAN AND I SEE IT, WISDOM TO LOCK ALL THIS DOWN --

YOU HAVE TO DO SOMETHING THE FUTURE WISDOM I SAW NEVER DID.

YOU HAVE TO ADMIT TO KITTY THAT YOU LOVE HER.





... GOVERNMENT
STATEMENT
ACKNOWLEDGES A
DEBT OF THANKS OWED
TO THE MYSTERIOUS
EXCALIBUR
GROUP.

THE
MAIN INTERNATIONAL
NEWS STORY OF THE DAY
CONTINUES TO BE THE
NEW YORK SITUATION. NEW
YORK CITY REMAINS BLACKED
OUT. SATELLITE PHOTOGRAPHY
DISCERNs ONLY STRANGE
LIGHTS IN THE MIDDLE OF
MANHATTAN...

I DON'T
BELIEVE THIS.
WE'RE STUCK
HERE, WHILE
OUR FRIENDS
ARE...

NOBODY WANTS
TO SAY THE WORD.
DYING.



GOTT
IN HIMMEL!
WE HAVE TO DO
SOMETHING!



YOU
THINK WE
SHOULD GO IN?
I'M THERE!

WE
BOTH ARE.
THE JOB
NEEDS
DOING.



WE COULD TAKE THE
RUNNER. WE'D HAVE NO
MEDICAL BACK-UP, BUT
IF WE COULD GET INTO
MANHATTAN ITSELF, WE
COULD PROVIDE SOME
MUSCLE.

THAT'S
ENOUGH!

LOOK,
MOIRA -- OUR
FRIENDS ARE IN
TROUBLE.

SERIOUS,
POSSIBLY FATAL
TROUBLE.
WE --

-- WILL GO
TO MANHATTAN
AND PROBABLY
GET YOURSELVES
KILLED!

AND
IF YOU GET
KILLED, WHAT
HAPPENS TO THE
REST OF THE
WORLD?

YE THINK
THERE'S ONLY
MUTANTS IN
NEW YORK?



WHAT
HAPPENS WHEN
YOU'RE NEEDED IN
LONDON, OR PARIS, OR
BONN, OR A TINY VILLAGE
IN SCOTLAND? YE'RE DEAD
AND NO ONE CARE ANYONE!
AND MUTANTS HAVE
NO ONE TO LOOK
TO FOR HELP!



WHAT
HAPPENS THE
CHARLES' DREAM OF
PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE
BETWEEN HUMAN AND
MUTANT WHEN THERE'S
NO ONE LEFT ALIVE
TO DREAM IT,
KURT?

AND I'M
TELLING YE
NOW -- CHARLES'S
DREAM IS *HERE*. IF
THINGS GO WRONG
IN MANHATTAN,
WE'RE IT.

CHARLES
XAVIER -- THE
REAL ONE, THE ONE
WE KNEW AND LOVED --
NEEDS YOU TO BE HERE.
THIS IS WHERE THE
DREAM IS.

YOU HAVE A
RESPONSIBILITY
TO HIM TO STAY
ALIVE.

AND THE
WORLD
GOES
QUIET.

AND THE
NIGHT GETS
DARKER.

